

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph on page 14, lines 8-22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The electrode 14 is disposed at a predetermined position by protrusions 12a, 12b and 13a (see FIG. [[3]] 4) that are formed in the support members 12 and 13. One end of the electrode 14 is supported by a pinching portion 15a of the feeding plate 15 which is provided in the holding member 12 and has spring properties. Further, the other end of the electrode 14 is connected to the fixing plate 17 via the spring 16, and fixed by the holding member 13. In other words, the electrode 14 is held by the holding members 12 and 13 with predetermined tension given thereto. The electrode 14 is connected to a feeding portion 18, and is electrically connected to, for example, a high-voltage generating mechanism 411 which will be described later (see FIG. [[7]] 9).

Please replace paragraph on page 16, lines 4-11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

More specifically, the cleaning sheet 22 has a thickness ranging from 10 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , and preferably 25 to 75  $\mu\text{m}$ . In the present embodiment, the cleaning sheet having a thickness of 50  $\mu\text{m}$  is used. Further, an abrasive may be applied to the surface of the cleaning sheet 22. This makes it possible to more effectively remove the electric discharge products and the like deposited on the electrode 14.

Please replace paragraph on page 16, lines 12-15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, silicon carbide, silicon nitride, cerium oxide, ferric oxide, chromic oxide and alumina can be used as the abrasive, and the particle diameter is 0.01 to 2  $\mu\text{m}$ , preferably 0.01 to 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace paragraph on page 17, lines 6-20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It should be noted that the encroaching amount X is the amount in design in which the cleaning sheet 22 overlaps the edge of the charging needles 14a of the electrode 14 in an undeformed state in a sectional view, as shown in FIG. 5, and ~~it is preferable that X = 0.1 to 1.5 mm~~ that X may be 0.1 to 1.5 mm, while in the present embodiment, X = 0.5. Moreover, the cut portion 22c is ~~preferably~~ may be 2 to 8 mm, and is 4 mm in the present embodiment. In addition, the encroaching amount X is associated with durability or variation, which will be described later, in connection with the deformation caused by the contact with the electrode, and the encroaching amount X differs depending on the size of the apparatus and the material of the cleaning sheet. The present invention is not limited to the present embodiment.

Please replace paragraph on page 20, lines 18-21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 7 is a reference diagram explaining cleaning effects when an embodiment of the present invention having the above-described configuration is used to clean the sawtooth electrode.